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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/637,846	08/10/2000	Sujith Arramreddy	RCC-001	7094

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EXAMINER

HUYNH, KIM T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2189

DATE MAILED: 06/27/2003

14

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/637,846

Applicant(s)

ARRAMREDDY ET AL.

Examiner

Kim T. Huynh

Art Unit

2189

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 10 August 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porterfield (US Patent 6,141,715) in view of Alzien et al. (US Patent 5,987,555)

a. As per claim 1, Porterfield discloses a method of assigning ownership of a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus, the method including:

- identifying a target requested by a master; (col.4, lines 47-62)
- determining if data associated with the target is available; and (col.5, lines 24-65)

Porterfield discloses all the limitations as above, except Porterfield fails to disclose assigning a first priority for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of the data. However, Alzien discloses once the data is available the pci arbiter provide normal level of arbitration priority to the PCI master. (col.23, lines 1-22)

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Alzien's teaching into Porterfield's method for assigning a priority for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of data so as to be more efficient and so as

to be more advantageously of saving times for avoiding delayed transaction operations for the system. (col.1, lines 8-11)

b. As per claim 2, Porterfield discloses the method further comprising assigning the master a MEDIUM priority level after the master requests a target. (col.4, lines 15-32)

c. As per claim 3, Porterfield discloses all the limitations as above, except Porterfield fails to disclose assigning a first priority for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of the data comprises assigning a LOW priority level to the master if the data is not available. However, Alzien discloses PCI arbiter indicating pending which responsively prevents the PCI master from obtaining ownership of PCI bus. [(col.23, lines 13-16) which implies no data available no priority no bus ownership, low priority.]

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Alzien's teaching into Porterfield's method for assigning a priority for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of data so as to be more efficient and so as to be more advantageously of saving times for avoiding delayed transaction operations for the system. (col.1, lines 8-11)

d. As per claim 4, Porterfield discloses all the limitations as above, except Porterfield fails to disclose assigning a first priority for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of the data comprises assigning a HIGH priority level to the master if the data is available. However, Alzien discloses once

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the data is available the pci arbiter provide normal level of arbitration priority to the PCI master. [(col.23, lines 1-22) which implies assign priority, gaining bus ownership, which is high priority]

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skills in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate Alzien's teaching into Porterfield's method for assigning a priority for ownership of the PCI bus to the master based on availability of data so as to be more efficient and so as to be more advantageously of saving times for avoiding delayed transaction operations for the system. (col.1, lines 8-11)

e. As per claim 5, Porterfield discloses the target uses delayed transactions to complete a read access. (col.6, lines 40-49)

f. As per claim 6, Porterfield discloses the target integrates a buffer management scheme. (col.6, lines 28-39)

g. As per claim 7, Porterfield discloses the buffer management scheme includes an input/output cache. (col.6, lines 28-39)

h. As per claim 8, Porterfield discloses identifying a target includes sending a request signal from the master to an arbiter. (col.4, lines 47-62)

i. As per claim 9, Porterfield discloses assigning a priority includes sending a modified request signal to the arbiter. (col.4, lines 22-32)

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed on 5/27/03 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

a. In response to applicant's argument that in Alzien's system, the arbiter provides a normal level of arbitration priority only when the data is available rather than determining the availability of data and assigning a priority level to the master based on that availability as recited in claim 1. However, Alzien does disclose PCI arbiter which responsively provides a normal level of arbitration priority to the PCI master which implies assign priority, gaining the bus ownership to PCI master when read data is available(col.23, lines 1-22), which is read to recited in claim 1.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Chen et al. [USPN 5,850,530] discloses selectively allows an arbitration to occur only when specific data is ready for transfer. (col.3, lines 27-30), (col.4, lines 64-67), (col.5, lines 1-7), (col.7, lines 62-67)

A shortened statutory period for reply is set to expire THREE months from the mailing date of this communication. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) months from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely. If no period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) months from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C 133).

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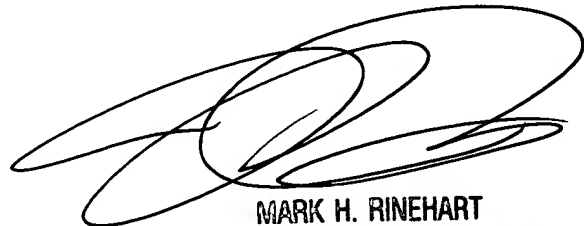
5. *Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kim Huynh whose telephone number is (703)305-5384 or via e-mail addressed to [kim.huynh3@uspto.gov]. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30AM- 6:30PM.*

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mark Rinehart can be reached on (703) 305-4815 or via e-mail addressed to [mark.rinehart@uspto.gov]. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)746-7249 for regular communications and (703)746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)306-5631.

Kim Huynh

June 22, 2003



MARK H. RINEHART
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100